



Water Quality Technical Forum Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data

There were no positive coliform samples in purveyor areas during August 2006. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.5 to 1.4 mg/L, with an overall average of 0.9 mg/L. The target chlorine residual at the Tolt Treatment Facility is 1.5 mg/L and the Cedar target residual is still 1.7 mg/L. The number of samples with chlorine less than 0.2 mg/L was very low at the end of August, but there have been a few areas with low chlorine in mid September.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel is meeting every week still. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the Cedar supply (Lake Youngs treated) samples in August were 1.5 and 1.8. The Tolt supply results were 1.2 and 1.6 for August. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert at moya.joubert@seattle.gov.

Lead and Copper Rule

All samples for lead and copper have been collected by the September 30, 2006 deadline. Results are due to DOH by January 10, 2007, however, results should be available for purveyors by the end of October.

SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.

2005 Annual Conservation Report Distributed

The new report provides details on the excellent progress being made to reach the regional 1% water savings goal. Electronic copies of the report are now available at

http://www.seattle.gov/util/stellent/groups/public/@spu/@csb/documents/webcontent/spu01_002233.pdf

Copies have been sent to wholesale utility managers. Extra paper copies are available on request.

CONTACT: Al Dietemann, (206) 684-5881



Conservation Technical Forum

On the web at <http://www.savingwater.org>

YOUTH EDUCATION

New Kids Web Page Published

Fun, easy-to-access and interesting were goals of creating a new Kids Page for the Saving Water Partnership's web site. Characters from the popular Waterbusters conservation game and bright colors are used to provide the fun. Distinct age group categories were developed to provide easy access and address the very real interest and

informational differences of the groups. K-3, 4-7, 8-12 grade levels and Parents/ Teachers categories frame the content. To add interest, factual categories and links exist to extend the proven existing activities. Usability tests on these elements conducted with students from these age groups yielded very positive responses. The new page forms a framework for new information and activities. As such, this is a work in perpetual progress. A new "Contact Us" box allows for users to register on-going comments or requests. In the meantime, a new bookmark is being produced for distribution to promote the new web site. If you have an interest in receiving these, give me a call.

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570



RESIDENTIAL INDOOR Showerhead Aerator Distribution Program

Puget Sound Energy is conducting additional research on shower and aerator flow measurements

of single family homes in their territory. The data collected will be used to support PSE as a partner in the showerhead and aerator replacement program. SPU and Seattle City Light also believe this is a great opportunity to collect more supporting data for the program as a whole. The program will launch in the summer of 2007 with the prospect of reaching an even larger audience.

CONTACT: Arece Hampton, (206) 733-9137

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE Seattle Metropolitan Magazine Ad

The SWP purchased a full-page ad in the October issue of Seattle Metropolitan Magazine. The magazine is relatively new but it matches the demographics of target customers and has strong readership regionally. Our market research continues to find both a proliferation of automatic sprinkler systems, and a mistaken assumption that they are relatively water-efficient. So, the ad informs people of the truth - that these

systems waste at least 30% of the water they use - and suggests ways to help. The magazine will be published on September 27.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855



Saving Water Partnership
Seattle and Participating area water Utilities

Water Efficient Irrigation

The first week of December, the Saving Water Partnership, Washington Irrigation Contractors Association (WICA), and Cascade Water Alliance will host five days of various irrigation trainings and a vendor fair, which will promote only those technologies that qualify for water conservation rebates from the water utilities. Details about the event will be posted the first week of October on savingwater.org and WICA's website.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

Savvy Gardener E-newsletter Connects to Gardening Customers

Saving Water Partnership now has an e-newsletter to stay in touch with our gardening customers. This will help us promote classes and events, provide expert advice, highlight customers' gardens (through our Garden Stories) and provide a wealth of resources. Staff are developing a page on savingwater.org for customers to sign up. Current subscribers are customers who have attended the Savvy Gardener classes over the past three years and asked for more information.

For the summer edition:

<http://www.savingwater.org/savvygardener/summer/default.htm>

and for the fall edition:

<http://www.savingwater.org/savvygardener/default.htm>

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, (206) 615-0516

Fall Savvy Gardener Classes are Here!

The fall Savvy Gardener classes started on Sept 10 with Marianne Binetti (Seattle P.I. writer) talking to 35 customers at Molbak's nursery in

Woodinville. The next classes will be in October at Swanson's in Seattle and at a designer's garden in Shoreline. The schedule is posted at http://savingwater.org/education_classes.htm#savvy.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, (206) 615-0516

COMMERCIAL

Cascadia Conducting Outreach

Cascadia / Resource Venture is conducting water conservation outreach to the business community within SWP territory. If you know of a business in your service territory that can benefit from the various conservation programs please have them contact myself or Ruth Bell of Cascadia at ruth@cascadiaconsulting.com (206) 343-9759 x103.

Ruth will also begin to contact partners for input on how best to proceed in creating a business brochure. These brochures will present water conservation programs offered by SWP.

CONTACT: Arece Hampton (206) 733-9137

EVALUATION

Regional Water Conservation Survey

By Labor Day weekend, the survey fielding was half-way complete. A surprising 70% of our customers were willing to provide their addresses, which will enable us to match to billing system accounts in Seattle and in those purveyor areas participating in the billing attribution portion of the study. Initial results are very exciting and confirm the usefulness of this type of project in program planning, evaluation and benchmarking. Details will be forthcoming after the fielding is completed.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855

ANNUAL SURVEY OF WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS REMINDER

It's time to fill out the 2006 survey questionnaire. This report contains rate data from 2005 and consumption data from 2004 from each wholesale customer. Seattle has been collecting data in this format since 1994 and has built up quite a

database of useful information over the past 12 years. The data has been invaluable to SPU in its demand forecasting efforts and helpful to other utilities in their own analysis and planning.

We are asking all wholesale customers to complete the 2006 survey questionnaire with 2006 rate data and 2005 consumption data. Forms 1 through 4 can now be downloaded from our website, filled out, and emailed back to us. The link is: http://www.seattle.gov/util/Services/Water/For_Wholesale_Customers/Wholesale_Customer_Survey/index.asp.

We are requesting that this be done before November 1, 2006.

Questions, please contact Bruce Flory at (206) 684-5859 or bruce.flory@seattle.gov.

Department of Ecology News Release

September 25, 2006 06-195

State proposes water rights for Lake Tapps water-supply project

OLYMPIA - Today the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposed a water right that would help supply the long-range water needs of the Central Puget Sound region, protect salmon, improve water quality and assist ongoing efforts to sustain Lake Tapps for many uses.

The proposal is open for public review in a 45-day public comment period.

Using Lake Tapps as a water supply reservoir to retain the lake was the preferred option from the Lake Tapps Task Force. In 2004, PSE stopped hydropower operations at its Lake Tapps facility as a result of licensing conditions that affected the economics of the project.

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) applied for two interrelated water rights, in addition, to create the water supply project. One of the new water rights would authorize diverting water from the White River into Lake Tapps. The second related water

right would authorize the storage of the diverted White River water in the Lake Tapps Reservoir. PSE and the Cascade Water Alliance, which is a consortium of cities and water suppliers in the Central Sound, are negotiating agreements that would allow the alliance to purchase these water rights and PSE's Lake Tapps facilities.

Together, the proposed applications, if approved, would provide a new water source for a number of cities, public utility districts and other water suppliers between Tukwila and Redmond.

The water supply project is expected to supply the future needs of Cascade Water Alliance customers for the next 50 years beginning in 2024. The water right proposals would authorize an average of 64.6 million gallons of lake water a day for municipal water supply by 2053.

The alliance would construct the necessary water treatment and delivery systems to get water from the lake to its members.

Cascade Water Alliance members include Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, Redmond, Tukwila, Covington, the Sammamish Plateau and Skyway Water Districts.

The proposed water rights stipulate that PSE must:

- Increase the minimum “instream” flows in the White River to improve water quality and enhance salmon habitat. An “instream flow” is the amount of water flowing in a stream or river.
- Reserve up to 16 million gallons of lake water a day to replace or supplement public-water

supplies in streams and rivers in the region where current withdrawals contribute to chronic stream-flow problems that are harmful to fish.

- Conserve up to 2,500 acres of lands in the White River watershed to support salmon and other wildlife.

“These water right decisions, when finalized, will be a rare and creative example of how to create a very large regional water supply and simultaneously enhance environmental conditions,” said Ecology Director Jay Manning. “This decision has been years in the making and has been markedly improved by input from many interested parties. The proposed water right approvals provide built-in flexibility so components of the complicated project may be changed as future needs require.”

According to Shawn Bunney, chair of the Pierce County Council and co-chair of the Lake Tapps Task Force, “This water right is needed to save Lake Tapps and meet the interests of all stakeholders. I am cautiously optimistic and looking forward to working with the Department of Ecology, the Tribes, the resource agencies, partnering governments and the community to finalize a settlement.”

Ed Schild, director of energy production for Puget Sound Energy said, “For more than seven years Puget Sound Energy and others have worked hard to preserve the many public benefits of Lake Tapps and protect fish in the White River. Once this water right is final, we'll have taken a major step toward achieving that goal.”

Ecology will be accepting comments on the proposed water rights through November 27. The proposal is called a “Draft Report of Examination” and is posted on-line at

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/swro/lttappshome.html> On-line comments may be submitted to Ecology at this from this site.